

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Dr. Robert (Tad) Perry's 15 years as chief executive officer for the South Dakota Board of Regents stands as the longest record of service in any one state by a state higher education executive officer; and,

Whereas, Dr. Perry leaves the system leadership role at a time when public universities in South Dakota are serving a record number of students, conducting record levels of research, and raising a record of nearly \$500 million in private funds across all six universities; and,

Whereas, Dr. Perry's tenure was marked by significant growth in service to non-traditional students, increases in graduate degree offerings, research programs, and enhancement of the technology environment for all students; and,

Whereas, Dr. Perry was instrumental in creating the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship program, which has supported more than 5,000 students and provides a financial incentive for students to take a rigorous college-prep curriculum and remain in South Dakota for their postsecondary education; and,

Whereas, Many of Dr. Perry's achievements will be of lasting impact, including policies designed to make salaries more competitive for faculty and administrators, consolidating back-office functions among the six universities, and significant upgrading of campus facilities; and,

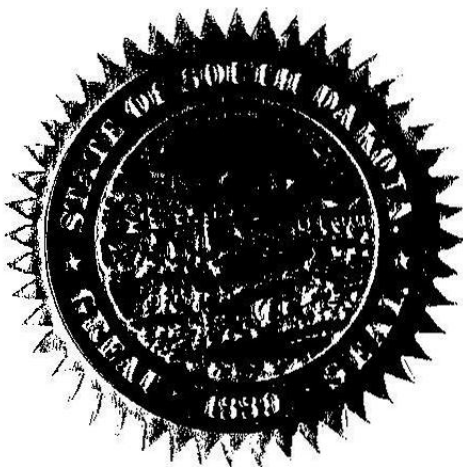
Whereas, During Dr. Perry's public service in South Dakota, he worked with 27 regents and 25 institutional executives, and was involved in recruiting and selecting 17 of those institutional leaders; and,

Whereas, Dr. Perry's last official duties performed for the South Dakota Board of Regents will be July 7, 2009, and it is fitting and proper as governor to recognize the numerous accomplishments and dedication of this outstanding citizen:

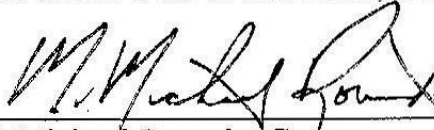
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 7, 2009, as

DR. TAD PERRY DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirtieth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State